

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Two minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1839

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on November 29, 2010, I regret that I was not present to vote on H.R. 5877 and H. Res. 771.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both bills.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in the House Chamber today. I would like the RECORD to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 581 and 582.

IMPENDING CRISIS IN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

(Ms. BERKLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about an impending crisis in our health care system. If this Congress can't figure out a way to reimburse the doctors that take care of our older Americans, our fellow citizens, our mothers and fathers and grandparents that are on Medicare, this Nation is going to be in a world of hurt. It is time that we put aside petty politics, figure out how we're going to reimburse the doctors and keep the Medicare system going.

There are millions of Americans, certainly hundreds of thousands of seniors in the district that I represent, that depend on Medicare to have their health care needs met. You take away their doctors, you take away any chance they have of getting medical care.

Let's get moving on this and provide a permanent fix to reimbursing the doctors, and let's help our seniors stay on Medicare.

THE CHILDREN'S TRUST SIXTH ANNUAL CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN AWARD CEREMONY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, the Children's Trust hosted its sixth annual Champions for Children awards ceremony just recently in south Florida. It honored the exceptional individuals who dedicate their time and services to the children of south Florida.

The Children's Trust is an altruistic humanitarian organization committed to the children and families of our south Florida community. It operates on a simple motto, Madam Speaker: "Because all children are our children."

It is this belief that has motivated the Children's Trust since its inception in the year 2002. It has collaborated with children and parents throughout our community in an attempt to strengthen the family bond and to help facilitate opportunities to allow the children of south Florida to achieve their full potential.

I encourage all throughout our community to take an interest in this great organization because, indeed, all children are our children.

INSULT MOSQUE

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the people who want to build a mosque at Ground Zero now want American taxpayers to pay \$5 million to help build that mosque. Those who beg for American money to build an insult mosque on Ground Zero disrespect the 3,000 people of all faiths, nations, and religions that were murdered by a radical Islamic faction on 9/11.

Ground Zero is sacred American soil. It's where America was ambushed by killers from the sky. A taxpayer-funded mosque at the site comes across as a memorial and tribute to the radical terrorists that murdered in the name of religion. Such a plan is unwise, insensitive, and shameful.

Those who wish to build a mosque should instead build a monument and a memorial to the victims of 9/11—victims that include Christians, Jews, and Muslims. Otherwise, Ground Zero is off-limits.

And that's just the way it is.

DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues that as Diabetes Awareness Month comes to a close, we must continue to work together to protect future generations from this disease.

Cases of diabetes among Americans is growing at an alarming rate. Today, nearly 24 million children and adults suffer from this disease, that's nearly one in every three Americans, and another 57 million Americans are at risk.

Madam Speaker, in addition to the alarming number of people affected by diabetes, the costs associated with this disease are far too great. The American Diabetes Association estimates that the total cost associated with diabetes care costs approximately \$174 billion annually.

With health care costs rising and the number of diagnosed diabetics at an

all-time high, we must work to prevent diabetes through education and awareness, as well as work to lower the cost of care associated with this disease.

□ 1850

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. KILROY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING LEOPOLDO CIFUENTES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a friend who passed away just a few days ago, a larger than life personality, a generous and extraordinary man, Leopoldo Cifuentes.

Scion of a distinguished Cuban family, his grandfather purchased the famed Partagas cigar factory in 1875. The Cifuentes family symbolizes Cuban tobacco and cigars, the best in the world. And Leopoldo Cifuentes symbolized his remarkable family.

When the Cuban Communist tyranny confiscated all businesses in Cuba in 1960, including the tobacco business of the Cifuentes family, young Leo came to the United States of America, a country he loved and admired deeply. He married Dagmar Hidalgo Nunez, an extraordinary woman, in 1962.

That year Leopoldo Cifuentes volunteered to join the United States Army. Years later, he received an honorable discharge and the commendation of the then Army Secretary Cyrus Vance. Leo and Dagmar subsequently moved to Spain, where much of their extended family resided. Their children, Leopoldo, Jr., and Mayte, were born there. As Leopoldo and Dagmar's family grew, so did Leo's business success. But he never stopped loving the United States of America, nor the country of his birth, Cuba. Leopoldo Cifuentes, along with his son Leo Jr., and his nephew Rafael, have been bulwarks in the fight for Cuba's freedom.